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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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/112 W
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R 041600Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2121
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KINGSTON 5289

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, JM
SUBJECT: INTERNAL SECURITY: THE GREEN BAY AVALANCHE

REF: KINGSTON 4395

1. SUMMARY. SINCE OUR LAST REPORT OF THE UNRAVELING OF THE GREEN BAY MURDERS, THE PRESS HAS CARRIED MANY NEW ALLEGATIONS AND IMPLIED CABINET LEVEL RESPONSIBILITY, ALL 8 OPPOSITION MEMBERS OF THE SENATE HAVE RESIGNED RATHER THAN ELIMINATE DISCUSSION OF GREEN BAY FROM AN INQUIRY INTO THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE UNIT AND INDICTMENTS OF LOWER RANKING MILITARY PARTICIPANTS FOR "CONSPIRACY TO MURDER" ARE REPORTED TO BE IN THE OFFING. (SINCE THE SENATE HAS VERY LITTLE RESPONSIBILITY THEIR RESIGNATION IS MOSTLY SYMBOLIC) IN THE GREEN BAY AFFAIR, LIKE WATERGATE, IT SEEMS TO BE THE PRESS THAT IS MOST FEARLESS IN GETTING AT THE TRUTH. END SUMMARY.

2. SINCE OUR LAST REPORT ON THE AFTERMATH OF THE GREEN BAY SHOOTINGS (KINGSTON 4395 AND PREVIOUS), PRESSURES ON THE GOVERNMENT TO TELL ALL HAVE INCREASED CONSIDERABLY. THE GLEANER HAS CARRIED ADDITIONAL ARTICLES BY DAVID DA COSTA ALLEGING THAT THE GREEN BAY VICTIMS
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WERE MURDERED AND THAT THE AMBUSH WAS PLANNED AND MANIPULATED BY THE JDF'S MILITARY INTELLIGENCE UNIT (MIU). ACCORDING TO DA COSTA, THE PURPOSE WAS TO ACCUSE THE OPPOSITION JLP OF SMUGGLING ARMS AND DECLARE ANOTHER STATE OF EMERGENCY TO COVER UP THE RESULTS OF THE PNP'S HORRENDOUS MISMANAGEMENT.

3. THERE ARE SEVERAL ASPECTS OF DA COSTA'S LATEST ARTICLES WORTH

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SPECIAL NOTE. HE THOROUGHLY DEBUNKS THE GOVERNMENT'S REASONING FOR CALLING AN EMERGENCY AS WELL AS PM MANLEY'S CHARGES OF CIA "DESTABILIZATION" EFFORTS IN JAMAICA. (THE PENTHOUSE CHARGES HE CALLS A FRAUD EASILY DISPROVED BY ANY JAMAICAN). IN FACT, THE CIA THREAD IS WOVEN IN ALMOST EVERY ARTICLE IN AN APPEALING PATTERN AND COLOR. ON JUNE 18, THE TITLE OF DA COSTA'S PIECE WAS "THE MIU OWN OWN HOME GROWN CIA." HERE, THE AUTHOR CHARGES THAT IN 1976 PRIME MINISTER MANLEY EMPLOYED - UNSUCCESSFULLY - AN UNTRUSTWORTHY AGENT PROVOCATEUR ALBERT ROBINSON TO ENTRAP THE U.S., CANADIAN AND BRITISH DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION. WHEN THE EMBASSIES WOULD NOT BUY ROBINSON'S STORY OF HAVING BEEN TRAINED IN CUBA TO EFFECT A COMMUNIST TAKEOVER HERE, A NEW SCENARIO WAS PREPARED BY THE MIU THIS TIME INVOLVING THE OPPOSITION. SUBSEQUENTLY, DA COSTA SAID, ROBINSON'S MIS-GUIDED MEETING WITH THE OPPOSITION, AT WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY PRODUCED A WEAPON GIVEN HIM BY THE CUBANS, WAS USED BY THE GOVERNMENT AS THE BASIS FOR DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND ARRESTING OPPOSITION FIGURES DURING THE ELECTION. DA COSTA GOES ON TO SAY THAT WHEN THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AT THAT TIME (1976) TOLD THE JDF CHIEF OF STAFF THAT IF THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY WAS BASED ON ROBINSON'S STORY IT HAD TO BE A "POLITICAL FARCE." DA COSTA CLAIMS ROBINSON HAS NOW TOLD HIM AND OTHERS "HE WAS RECRUITED BY THE PNP MONTHS BEFORE THE EMERGENCY TO PENETRATE THE JLP." GREEN BAY, DA COSTA CONCLUDES, WAS COLD BLOODED MURDER TO RIG ANOTHER DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY.

4. THE OPPOSITION HAS CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER MANLEY TO ACCEPT
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RESPONSIBILITY FOR GREEN BAY (THE PRIME MINISTER IS ALSO MINISTER OF DEFENSE) AND RESIGN. MANLEY, OF COURSE, HAS DENOUNCED AND REJECTED THIS MOVE. IN ANOTHER MOVE JLP MEMBERS OF THE SENATE INTRODUCED A MOTION CALLING FOR A GOVERNMENT INQUIRY INTO THE OPERATIONS OF THE MIU. ON JUNE 30, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE RULED THAT THE MOTION REFERRED TO THE GREEN BAY AFFAIR, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS INFORMED HIM THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE WAS CONTEMPLATING FUTHER ACTION IN THAT AFFAIR AND THEREFORE THE MOTION WAS NOT ACCEPTED. THE PRESIDENT OFFERED AN AMENDED MOTION ELIMINATING ALL REFERENCE TO GREEN BAY WHICH THE OPPOSITION REFUSED. ALL EIGHT OPPOSTION MEMBERS THEN SUBMITTED THEIR RESIGNATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN PROTEST CLAIMING THE COUNTRY NEEDS TO KNOW THE TRUTH.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KINGSTON 5289

5. ON THE SAME DAY A GLEANER CORRESPONDENT LEARNED THAT WARRANTS FOR THE ARREST OF SEVERAL JDF OFFICERS WOULD BE ISSUED THIS WEEK. IN ITS JULY 2 ISSUE THE PRO-GOVERNMENT DAILY NEWS SAID THE DATE WOULD BE WEDNESDAY JULY 5. FURTHER, THE NEWS SAID MAJOR IAN ROBINSON WHO COMMANDED THE OPERATION, CAPTAIN KARL MARSH, HEAD OF THE MIU AND THE SOLDIERS WHO TOOK PART IN THE SHOOTING WOULD BE CHARGED WITH "CONSP-IRACY TO MURDER." THIS CHARGE, THE NEWS SAID, IS A LESSER OFFENSE THAN MURDER MAKING CONVICTION MORE CERTAIN ALTHOUGH IT PROVOKED DISAGREEMENT AT THE DPP OFFICE WHERE SOME REPORTEDLY WANTED THE CHARGE TO BE MURDER.

6. COMMENT: THE GREEN BAY AVALANCHE ROLLS ON. UNLIKE WATERGATE, THE OPPOSITION, THE PRESS AND OTHERS WHO ARE SEEKING THE TRUTH IN THIS SORDID CASE DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE THE EVIDENCE LINKING THE EXECUTANTS AND PURPETRATORS OF THE CRIME TO THE CABINET OR THE PRIME MINISTER. DAVID DA COSTA'S ARTICLES IMPLY THAT SINCE MANLEY AND THE PNP GOVERNMENT STOOD TO GAIN THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE. UNTIL NOW HE HAS SHOWN NO EVIDENCE THAT THIS IS SO OR EVEN THAT THE PRESENT MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY WAS DIRECTLY INVOLVED OR KNEW OF WHAT WAS GOING ON BEFORE THE EVENT. DA COSTA OBVIOUSLY HAS SOME GOOD INFORMANTS IN THE JDF AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO PUSH FURTHER.
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7. WHILE WE DO NOT KNOW THE STRATEGY OF THE OPPOSITION IN LETTING ITS SENATORS RESIGN - OR IF INDEED IT HAS ANY STRATEGY - THE OPPOSIT-ION IS NOW NOT REPRESENTED IN THE UPPER HOUSE, THE SENATE, AND IS REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS FOR THE LOWER HOUSE UNTIL ELECTOAL REFORM MEASURES ARE ENACTED. ATTACK ANYWHERE AND EVERY-WHERE OR GET MANLEY AND DAMN THE CONSEQUENCES SEEMS TO BE THEIR MODUS OPERANDI. IT IS TOO EARLY TO SAY DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURES IN JAMAICA ARE DOOMED BY UNPRINCIPLED RIVALRY BETWEEN THE INS AND OUTS

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BUT NOT TOO EARLY TO VIEW DEVELOMENTS IN LIGHT OF SUCH A POSSIBILITY.

8. FINALLY, THE DAILY NEW'S VERSION OF THE EXPECTED ARRESTS FOR INVOLVEMENT IN GREEN BAY WILL NOT SATISFY THE SKEPTICS OR THE OPPOSITION. THE VERDICT OF THE CORONER'S JURY WAS THAT MURDER WAS COMMITTED BY PERSONS UNKNOWN. A TRIAL FOR CONSPIRACY TO MURDER WILL BE SEEN AS ANOTHER EFFORT TO USE THE GOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY TO CONTINUE A COVER UP. IF INDICTMENTS ARE MADE AND A TRIAL TAKES PLACE IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE THE ACCUSED MAY TELL MORE THAN THE GOVERNMENT WISHES EVEN THOUGH IT WILL BE A CASE OF THE GOVERNMENT PROSECUTING ITS OWN OFFICIALS FOR BEING TOO ZEALOUS IN DEFENSE OF THEIR POLITICAL MASTERS.
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